

SUPPLEMENTARY STUDIES IN AESCHYNOMENE III:  
SERIES SCOPARIAE IN MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA

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Specimens of a plant collection made in Oaxaca, México by C. D. Mell more than 40 years ago have remained in one herbarium unidentified and in another tentatively labelled as "Ormocarpum." On the basis of general appearance, especially of the fruits, the reference to Ormocarpum seems apt, but consideration of the geographic range makes it suspect, since Ormocarpum P. Beauv. is a genus of the Old World, native chiefly to Africa and southern Asia. Re-examination of the material, Mell 2272, indicates that it represents a new species of Aeschynomene referable to my series Scopariae (Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. 32: 14, 19, 100. 1955) of subgenus Ochopodium (Vog.) Léonard (Bull. Jard. Bot. Bruxelles 24: 84. 1954).

Following is a revised key to the Scopariae of México and Central America, a list of synonyms of Aeschynomene amorphoides including names apparently not previously recorded, and a description of the new species of Aeschynomene.

Key to species of Aeschynomene (series Scopariae)  
in México and Central America

Flowers 4-7 (-8) mm. long, chiefly in many-flowered, terminal panicles; calyx 2-3 mm. long; vexillar petal glabrous.

Leaves about 40-80-foliolate; leaflets consistently narrow, oblong, about 5-17 mm. long, 2-3.5 mm. wide (México: Sinaloa, Nayarit, Colima, Jalisco) 1. Ae. amorphoides (S. Wats.) Rose ex Robins.

Leaves 5-20-foliolate; leaflets variable in size and shape, subelliptic to rhombic, ovate, or oblong, 5-40 mm. long, 2-28 mm. wide (México: México, Michoacán, Guerrero)

2. Ae. paucifoliolata Micheli

Flowers 5-15 mm. long, chiefly in few-flowered, axillary racemes, sometimes in terminal panicles; calyx (2-) 4-8 mm. long; vexillar petal glabrous or pubescent.

Vexillar petal glabrous.

Leaves 7-13-foliolate; leaflets elliptic to oblong or slightly obovate, 10-25 mm. long, 4-15 mm. wide; flowers 8-10 mm. long; calyx 3-4 mm. long; fruit with stipe about 5-6 mm. long, subglabrous, the articles about 15 mm. long, 7 mm. wide, glabrous except for a few hairs along the margin, the venation reticulate (México: Guerrero) 3. Ae. palmeri Rose

Leaves 11-25-foliolate; leaflets elliptic to elliptic-oblong, 2-5.5 mm. long, 1-2.5 mm. wide; flowers about 15 mm. long; calyx 7 mm. long; fruit with stipe about 3-5 mm. long, pubescent with glandular hairs, the articles about 10-15 mm. long, 7 mm. wide, moderately setose, otherwise glabrous, the longitudinal veins prominent (México: Oaxaca)

4. Ae. ormocarpoides Rudd

Vexillar petal pubescent on the outer face.

Fruit with stipe 1-3 mm. long.

Leaves 8-14-foliolate; leaflets elliptic-oblong to obovate, subsericeous; flowers (7-) 8-10 mm. long; calyx (3-) 4-5 mm. long (México: Baja California Sur)

5. Ae. vigil T. S. Brandegee

Leaves 7-12-foliolate; leaflets oblong to subelliptic, subglabrous; flowers 8-9 mm. long; calyx 5-6 mm. long (México: Sinaloa)

6. Ae. rosei Morton

Fruit with stipe 4-15 mm. long.

Articles of fruit appressed-pubescent to glabrous at maturity; flowers 8-10 mm. long.

Stipe of fruit 8-12 mm. long.

Leaves 5-6-foliolate; leaflets obovate to elliptic, 4-20 mm. long, 3-17 mm. wide; fruit 1-3-articulate with stipe glandular-hispid, 10-12 mm. long; flowers 8-10 mm. long; calyx 3-4 mm. long (México: Guerrero)

7. Ae. hintonii Sandw.

Leaves 12-16-foliolate; leaflets elliptic-oblong, 5-15 mm. long, 4-8 mm. wide, the terminal usually obovate-cuneate; fruit 5-6-articulate with stipe moderately appressed-pubescent and hispidulous, 8-10 mm. long; flowers 10 mm. long; calyx 4.5 mm. long (México: Guerrero)

8. Ae. langlassei Micheli ex Rudd

Stipe of fruit 5-7 mm. long.

Fruit with articles 6-7 mm. long and wide; calyx 3-4 mm. long; leaves 12-16-foliolate; leaflets orbicular to oblong, 10-15 mm. long, 4-10 mm. wide (México: Sinaloa, Nayarit) 9. Ae. simulans Rose

Fruit with articles 12-15 mm. long, 7-8 mm. wide; calyx 3.5-5 mm. long; leaves 8-18-foliolate; leaflets elliptic to oblong, 10-35 mm. long, 5-12 mm. wide (Guatemala; El Salvador; Honduras; Nicaragua) 10. Ae. nicaraguensis (Oerst.) Standl.

Articles of fruit crisp-pubescent; flowers 5-15 mm. long.

Stipe of fruit 5-7 mm. long; flowers 5-10 mm. long.

Flowers 8-10 mm. long; calyx 3-4 mm. long; leaves 15-40-foliolate; leaflets about 4-10 mm. long, 2-5 mm. wide (México: Jalisco, México, Colima)

11a. Ae. petraea Robins. var. petraea

Flowers 5-8 mm. long; calyx 2-3 mm. long; leaves 6-24-foliolate; leaflets about 5-15 mm. long, 3-8 mm. wide (México: Morelos, Michoacán, Guerrero)

11b. Ae. petraea var. madrensis (Micheli) Rudd

Stipe of fruit 8-15 mm. long; flowers (8-) 10-15 mm. long; leaves 12-40-foliolate; leaflets mostly 10-25 mm. long, 4-10 mm. wide (México: Sinaloa, Durango, Nayarit, Jalisco) 11c. Ae. petraea var. grandiflora Rudd

1. AESCHYNOMENE AMORPHOIDES (S. Wats.) Rose ex Robins. Proc. Amer. Acad. 29: 315. 1894.

Brya (?) amorphoides S. Wats. Proc. Amer. Acad. 22: 406. 1887.

Type: Edw. Palmer 414, México, Jalisco, Tequila, in 1886 (holotype GH; isotypes NY, US).

Drepanocarpus mucronulatus Benth. ex Hemsl. Diagn. Pl. Nov. 8.

1878. Type: T. Coulter s. n., México, Jalisco, Bolaños (holotype K), non Aeschynomene mucronulata Benth. 1840.

Hedysarum arborescens Sessé & Moçino, Fl. Mex. ed. 2. 170. 1894.

Type: M. Sessé & J. Moçino 2009, México, Jalisco, Santo Tomás, near Hostotipaquillo (holotype MA).

Aeschynomene bracteolaris Riley, Kew Bull. 1923: 115. 1923.

Type: J. González Ortega 586, México, Sinaloa, San Ignacio, El Coacoyal (holotype K).

Aeschynomene guadalajarana M. E. Jones, Contr. West. Bot. 18: 46.

1933. Type: M. E. Jones 27212, México, Jalisco, La Barranca, Guadalajara, Nov. 12, 1930 (holotype POM).

4. AESCHYNOMENE ORMOCARPOIDES Rudd, sp. nov.

Species fruticosa ex affinitate Aeschynomene petraeae Robins.  
Ae. palmeri Rose, et specierum affinium sed articulis fructus valde  
nervatis longitudinalis aspectu illis Ormocarpo notabilis.

Shrub; young stems longitudinally striate, sparsely pubescent with minute hairs and sometimes with swollen-based, glandular hairs, glabrescent; stipules caducous, lanceolate, acute, not produced at the base, 3-3.5 mm. long, 0.75 mm. wide, the margin denticulate; leaves 11-25-foliolate, the axis 1-3 cm. long, essentially glabrous; leaflets alternate or subopposite, elliptic to elliptic-oblong, 2-5.5 mm. long, 1-2.5 mm. wide, acute or obtuse, the base rounded, the surfaces glabrous, minutely glandular-punctate, the margin entire or glandular-denticulate, the midvein central or nearly so, the secondary veins not evident; inflorescences racemose, few-flowered, terminal or axillary, the axes somewhat glandular-setose, otherwise glabrous; bracts like the stipules or slightly smaller, caducous; bracteoles paired at base of calyx, caducous, elliptic, obtuse, 3-3.5 mm. long, 1-1.3 mm. wide, glabrous, the margin glandular-denticulate; flowers about 15 mm. long; calyx campanulate with 5 subequal lobes, or teeth, somewhat hypanthoid at the base, glabrous, about 7 mm. long, 3 mm. in diameter, the lobes acute, 2-3 mm. long, the carinal lobe slightly longer than the others, the margin entire to glandular-denticulate; stamens 10, monadelphous or later diadelphous 5:5; ovary about 5-ovulate, glandular-setose; fruit 1.5-2.5 cm. long, crenate along both margins, often with only one or two fertile articles, the terminal and basal articles often aborted; fertile articles elliptic, 10-15 mm. long, 7 mm. wide, moderately glandular-setose, otherwise glabrous, longitudinally veined, the lateral veins inconspicuous; stipe 3-5 mm. long or sometimes appearing longer due to abortion of the basal article, pubescent with swollen-based glandular hairs.

Type: C. D. Mell 2272, México, Oaxaca, Chivela, March 17, 1934 (holotype US no. 1642860; isotype NY).